

**CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CStP)
CONSERVATION ACTIVITY & EVALUATION TOOL (CAET) GUIDANCE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)**

Fiscal Year 2017-1 Associated Ag Land	
Soil Erosion	
Sheet and Rill Erosion	
Use Evaluation Test Question: All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.	
Wind Erosion	
Use Evaluation Test Question: All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.	
Classic Gully Erosion	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern. Classic gully erosion generally occurs in well-defined drainage ways and generally is not obliterated by tillage. In some situations, headcuts are present and aid in advancing the gully upstream. Field observation will be used to determine if classic gullies are present or not.	
Streambank, Shoreline, and Water Conveyance Channels	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern. https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs144p2_042678.pdf	
Soil Quality Degradation	
Compaction	
Use Evaluation Test Question: Soil compaction is limited to roads and landings. Tree root growth is not impeded. No more than 15 percent of the forested area is devoted to roads, trails, and landings.	
Subsidence	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern. Even though Subsidence is not a client's objective, there still may be a resource concern!! There are NO Histosol soils present in Kansas. Answer this question "YES".	

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Concentration of Salts and other Chemicals	
Use Evaluation Test Question: All erodible areas with high chemical concentrations (such as high salts) have been stabilized with permanent vegetation.	
Excess Water	
Seeps	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern.	
Runoff, Flooding, and Ponding	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern.	
Water Quality Degradation	
Nutrients in Surface Water	
Use Evaluation Test Question: The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer width requirement, whichever is greater, AND have few places where concentrated runoff flows through. Kansas minimum buffer width is 35 feet. If streams or waterbodies are not present, answer this question "N/A". Adjacent is anything less than 100 feet.	
Petroleum, Heavy Metal, and Other Pollutants Transported to Surface Water	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern. The fuel storage area and tank must be located a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well. Any tank over 660 gallons must be double-walled or have a secondary containment system.	

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Petroleum, Heavy Metal, and Other Pollutants Transported to Ground Water	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern. The fuel storage area and tank must be located a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well. Any tank over 660 gallons must be double-walled or have a secondary containment system.	
Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	
Use Evaluation Test Questions: 1.) The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: have diverse natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND have few places where concentrated runoff flow through. Kansas minimum buffer width is 35 feet. If streams or waterbodies are not present, answer this question "N/A". Adjacent is anything less than 100 feet. 2.) All temporary and permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.	
Air Quality Impacts	
Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors	
Use Evaluation Test question: Dust is controlled on all non-vegetated, unpaved travel ways. If gravel, sand, or other materials are used to control dust, answer this question "YES".	
Degraded Plant Condition	
Inadequate Structure and Composition	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern.	
Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	
Use Evaluation Test question: Invasive and noxious weeds are controlled or not present.	
Wildfire Hazard and Excessive Biomass Accumulation	
Use Planning Criteria. An evaluation test question will be listed, but DO NOT answer it for this micro-resource concern.	

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Fish and Wildlife – Inadequate Habitat	
Inadequate Habitat - Food	
<p>Use Evaluation Test questions: 1.) The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: have diverse natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND have few places where concentrated runoff flow through. Kansas minimum buffer width is 35 feet. If streams or waterbodies are not present, answer this question “N/A”. 2.) Existing plants provide food for the chosen declining, threatened, or endangered wildlife species. The Kansas State Wildlife Action Plan lists the species of greatest conservation need by ecoregion. The chosen declining species in Kansas for CStP are the Greater Prairie-Chicken, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, and Northern Bobwhite. Review Kansas Biology Technical Note KS-33 [Field Office Technical guide (FOTG), Section IV, Conservation Practices, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Fact Sheet] for habitat requirements.</p>	
Inadequate Habitat – Cover/Shelter	
<p>Use Evaluation Test questions: 1.) Plant growth provides cover/shelter that benefits threatened, endangered, or declining wildlife species. The Kansas State Wildlife Action Plan lists the species of greatest conservation need by ecoregion. The chosen declining species in Kansas for CStP are the Greater Prairie-Chicken, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, and Northern Bobwhite. Review Kansas Biology Technical Note KS-33 [FOTG, Section IV, Conservation Practices, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Fact Sheet] for habitat requirements. 2.) Internally drained features such as playas or potholes are left undrained and uncropped.</p>	
Inadequate Habitat – Water	
<p>Use Evaluation Test question: Access to water is at the right height, depth, and time of year for wildlife species. In Kansas, water is available for the Greater Prairie-Chicken, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, and Northern Bobwhite. Answer this question “YES”.</p>	
Inadequate Habitat – Habitat Continuity (Space)	
<p>Use Evaluation Test question: Connectivity between food resources and cover and shelter is provided for the chosen wildlife species. The Kansas State Wildlife Action Plan lists the species of greatest conservation need by ecoregion. The chosen declining species in Kansas for CStP are the Greater Prairie-Chicken, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, and Northern Bobwhite. Review Kansas Biology Technical Note KS-33 [FOTG, Section IV, Conservation Practices, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Fact Sheet] for habitat requirements.</p>	

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Inefficient Energy Use	
Equipment and Facilities	
<p>Use Evaluation Test question: Recommendations/components of an energy audit have been applied. The audit addressed equipment and facilities on the farm. For example, energy loss from lighting, drying, refrigeration, heating, or building insulation have been improved. All recommendations/components need to be applied. If an audit has not been completed, answer this question "NO".</p>	
Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	
<p>Use Evaluation Test question: Recommendations/components of an energy audit have been applied. The audit addressed equipment and facilities on the farm. For example, energy loss from lighting, drying, refrigeration, heating, or building insulation have been improved. All recommendations/components need to be applied. If an audit has not been completed, answer this question "NO".</p>	